The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occuring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

Entered as second-class matter September 26, 1914, at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized August 31, 1918.

VOL. 10. NO. 27. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1920. WHOLE NO. 495.

LABOR'S PLAN SUCCEEDS NO-PARTYISM ACCEPTED

Labor's non-partisan political program has passed the "explaining" stage. Its effectiveness is shown by heavy scores against the plunder crew who look upon government as a thing for private use.

Labor has done more than defeat senators, congressmen and governors. It has impressed workers that this government is "of, by and for the people."

It has triumphed after 40 years of agitation by smashing a blind partisanship that cloaked injustice and justified wrong.

Today candidates must stand on their records. The edict of a secret caucus or appeals to "stand by the party" no longer suffice.

Non-partisanship is a national characteristic. The independent voter is no longer a curiosity.

For nearly half a century labor has insisted that partisanship is reaction's best asset, and labor has served democracy by destroying partisanship.

Every year the tide of non-partisanship mounts higher and higher. This year the wave has reached a record point.

This year labor is better organized, more intelligent, more determined in its fight for justice, for freedom of action, for Americanism as understood by the Fathers.

The non-partisan wave will not recede. It will continue upward as labor awakens to the need for and the value of an intelligent, independent ballot.

The A. F. of L. national non-partisan political campaign committee is developing this intelligence. Records of candidates for national offices are published, platform declarations are made known, literature is supplied wage earners, who are urged to study these documents and then vote against labor's enemies and in the interest of humanity and justice.

The non-partisan method will become more effective as wage earners sense the ideals of liberty, progress and democracy and social justice that are behind a ballot cast for these qualities rather than for pillars of reaction and special privilege.

MANY ANTI-UNIONISTS RETIRED TO PRIVATE LIFE

Washington, Sept. 25,—Congressman Venable of Mississippi is the latest to go down to defeat by non-partisan labor. This candidate appealed for votes on the anti-union shop platform, and attacked the organized workers, who have retired him to private life.

Many instances have been reported to the A. F. of L. national non-partisan political campaign committee of candidates standing on the anti-union shop platform. In the great majority of cases these candidates have been defeated by organized labor workers, who show why cheap-labor employers support these candidates. In one instance a Texas candidate for congress publicly solicited financial aid from these employers. While this candidate was nominated, Texas trade unionists and sympathizers more than evened the score by defeating a former United States senator who sought the nomination for governor on an anti-union shop platform.

In Labor's "victory list" is included United States Senator Thomas of Colorado, who was not even mentioned as a candidate for re-election at the recent convention of his party. During the last session of congress it was almost a daily occurrence for Senator Thomas to attack organized labor on the floor of the senate. He was an inspiration to every anti-unionist and cheap labor employer in the land. But when Senator Thomas was called upon to face his constituents i. e. political campaign, he quit.

In Alabama Senator Underwood was nominated by a narrow margin, as was Senator Smith of Arizona and trade unionists of these states are enthusiastic over their first non-partisan venture on a state-wide scale.

Georgia trade unionists were more successful in the case of United States Senator Hoke Smith, who was defeated, and in Wisconsin the political scalp of Congressman Esch, joint sponsor for the railroad bill, dangles from the belt of LaCrosse labor.

Labor's non-partisan activity has already resulted in the disappearance of many reactionaries from the national law making body. New faces will replace those who were confident that their labor attacks would assure campaign funds from powerful anti-union sources. Organized labor wrecked the scheme by abandoning party lines and defeated these enemies who imagined they could keep the workers divided by raising the wolf cry: "Gompers is trying to deliver the labor vote."

Numerous candidates for lesser offices have also been defeated. The list includes every office from town tax assessor and councilman to governors of states.

These advances have been made possible by the awakening of the wage earners to their political strength when used as the balance of power against enemies of the men and women of toil and in the interest of justice and Americanism.

UNIONISTS ARE ALERT.

Charleston, W. Va., Sept. 25.—Alert trade unionists have exposed a plot to legalize "railroading" to the penitentiary any one who will cure the ills of special interests in this state.

The scheme would change the law so that jurors can be drawn from counties other than that in which the alleged crime was committed, and to give the state the right to ask for a greater number of peremptory challenges.

It is claimed Judge Damron of the Mingo county circuit court originated the scheme and presented it to attorneys for the coal interests. Then Governor Cornwall interested in his call for a special session of the state legislature.

In Judge Damron's jurisdiction Baldwin-Felts detectives recently attempted to shoot up Matewan, and several of them, their lives spared by did peaceful citizens. The thugs were evicting miners from company houses at the time.

The unionists show that if the state be given unlimited postponements an individual will be forced to repeatedly bring his witnesses to court and that he will eventually be bankrupt. The plan to permit jurors to be drawn from other counties would make it impossible for an individual to be tried by fellow citizens acquainted with his character.

ALL SHOULD REGISTER.

Washington, Sept. 25.—In a circular to officials of central labor bodies, the A. F. of L. national non-partisan political campaign committee says:

"We urge the men and women of labor to register no matter what you keep them from being the first to register.

"Further, we urge the organizations of labor to appoint committees to see that their members register for the purpose of having every worker enrolled on the registration books. As an aid to this we shall supply without cost the register cards herewith in quantities to meet the needs of your organization.

"The coming election is simply the principles of democracy, the liberties of the people must be upheld at the ballot box by the people themselves. Organized labor, true to its traditions and its mission, must rest upon the millions of members to make great sacrifices rather than to lose the chance to vote in this election."

MORE PARDONS URGED.

Indianapolis, Sept. 25.—Free use of the pardoning power was urged by Governor Goodrich in a speech before the American Institute of Criminal law.

"After years of experience and a careful study of the criminal question," said the governor, "I am fully convinced that the public interest is best served, the reform of the prisoner more certainly promoted and the welfare of the community advanced by a liberal but discriminating use of the pardoning power than by its harsh and restricted use. It is just as much the duty of the executive to act and extend clemency when the circumstances call for it as it is for the judge and jury to convict when the facts presented show a violation of the law."

INTEREST RATES HIGH.

Washington, Sept. 25.—Farmers are compelled to pay 7½ per cent for credits even on the best of security and this condition may affect the interest of the entire nation, said George Hampton, managing director of the farmers' national council.

"The farmers' end of the help from the federal reserve system," he said, "is not only the small end of the horn, but practically the disappointing end."

TEXAS BAKERS GAIN.

San Antonio, Sept. 25.—Organized bakers are conducting a successful active trade union campaign and are securing new agreements as a result of this activity.

IRON WORKERS ADVANCE.

Rock Island, Ill., Sept. 25.—After a two-days' strike, the iron workers in this city, Moline and Davenport advanced wages to $1.12½ an hour.

WANT STRIKE LAWS.

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 25.—A report submitted by Governor Kirby to investigate the coal miners' strike reports that present laws make impossible a settle that dispute. It is recommended that a tribunal be appointed by the state supreme court, and that the decisions shall be as binding as decisions given by circuit courts. Under this scheme if a striker refuses to go back to work he can be jailed.

The commission deplores that coal prices are going up. It says it has investigated the books of the coal owners, and that "it is difficult to understand why prices are high. As a solution, the governor is asked to appoint another commission.

The commission was formed by the victimizing policy of coal owners and their refusal to accept the award of the bituminous coal commission that was appointed by the president when the nation-wide strike was called off last fall.

The strikers have asked for the appointment of a federal commission, and agreed to abide by the award of that body.

URGE UNION PREFERENCE.

Sydney, New South Wales, August 25.—The New South Wales trade union movement asks the government to amend the arbitration act by providing that preference to unionists be mandatory in all awards by the federal government, in its administration, give preference to trade unionists in all branches of the public service.

The unionists base their claim on the fact that the government sets the standards of wage earners and that trade unionists are, as a body, every moral right, to this recognition.

Attorney General McTiernan, of New South Wales, agrees that this should be done, in a recent speech in this city, he said:

"I think it most outrageous that any person should deliberately remain outside the ranks of a union and then have the 'cheek' to share the benefits the union has procured. It is arrogance of a very high order, indeed."

KIDDIES FACE DARK FUTURE.

New York, Sept. 25.—Hopeless children's faces, a reproduction of Europe's children was painted by Dr. Livingston Farrand, of the American Red Cross, on his return from a trip abroad. He said the most conservative estimate of the Red Cross indicates that at least 11,000,000 children in Europe are fatherless from war. They face the next few years without hope and without help, unless outside assistance is given.

"When I use these orphans," said Dr. Farrand, "are added the millions of other children undernourished and diminished physically and mentally, the dangerous situation we visage for the generation, devitalized and neglected, upon which in a few years the stability of Europe must rest."

WANT MIDDLE MEN BARRED.

New York, Sept. 25.—The lines are drawing for a struggle between the dairymen's league and milk distributors, middlemen and milk consuming firms. The league insists that producers should control the price of milk and farmers all over the state are signing their names to this declaration and pledging support to cooperative marketing, which its advocates declare will eliminate the middle man.

The milk condensing concerns threaten to close down because of surplus stock. It is stated that one concern has $75,000,000 worth of stock in storage.

AMNESTY IS FAVORED.

Boston, Sept. 25.—"There is insufficient reason for continuing the punishment a large class of prisoners who gave offense during the war," says the Boston Post.

"The government should dispose of those cases without undue sentimentality and without indiscriminate clemency. Those surely should be freed who were sentenced in war for charges untenable in peace."

BUTCHERS RAISE WAGES.

San Francisco, Sept. 25.—A wage increase of $15 a month has been secured by Butchers' union No. 506.

PRESSMEN RAISE WAGES.

Peoria, Ill., Sept. 25.—Printing pressmen have adjusted wage differences with employers and will be advanced 20 per cent and an additional increase based on efficiency of men's claims for additional increases which they insist is justified by present living costs.

BOILER MAKERS GAIN.

San Francisco, Sept. 25.—A wage of $1 an hour for field work and $9 a day on buildings has been established by boiler makers and iron ship builders. All outside shops in this city are affected.

REVIVE OLD THEORY.

Rochester, N. Y., Sept. 25.—"One big union advocates are reviving an old theory and claiming it has discovered something," said President Johnston, in opening the convention of the International Association of Machinists.

"The cessation of destruction," said President Johnston, "seek to undermine the present labor movement and preach what they claim will be a new form of organization, while the truth is that the principles they expound is an old exploded one that has been tried out again and again and as often as it is tried it just as often has failed.

"The specialist leaders of these rump organizations are playing the employers' game. They are succeeded for a time in dividing the workers, but there is no doubt at times certain employing interests have secretly aided such organizations, since by dividing labor ranks the labor movement as to make it impotent.

President Johnston stated the o. b. u. convention held in Chicago last June was intended by 24 persons, after months of propaganda and thousands of communications. The executive board of this world service consists of nine persons, six of whom are machinists.

"Our association," said President Johnston, "is the principal object of attack by the One Big Union. The preponderance of their officers are machinists, so beware of the machinists. There is no doubt at the present time these workers desire to disrupt the New South Wales non-partisan program and that Mr. Ryan did not speak for that union. The convention called his attention to the action of A. F. of L. conventions in favor of the non-political policy and the executive council to proceed along non-partisan lines, and in the convention records, and when critics or those who would disrupt the international union activities now declare that Gompers can't deliver the labor vote, the convention records, the labor union resolutions say, 'are not concerned in the question of any fair-minded trade unionist.'

The central labor unio also declared that it was not associating itself ourselves to render every assistance possible that the government of the A. F. of L. may be carried to a successful conclusion."

URGE LOYALTY TO U. S.

Washington, Sept. 25.—Admiral Benson, chairman of the United States shipping board, appeals to business men to support the newly organized marine insurance syndicate, which was formed to aid in developing the merchant fleet. It is stated, "manifest little interest in the question whether or not their insurance is placed with American underwriters," and this "short-sighted policy" is interfering with the development of new business in the United States.

"The policy of building up and properly maintaining our shipping, foreign trade and prosperity can never be accomplished unless there is loyal support by our citizens," says Admiral Benson.

The naval officer's appeal is interesting to workers who are making demands for these business men for "America first," and their profits are the targets are not "19 per cent American."

URGE JUDGE'S REMOVAL.

Worcester, Mass, Sept. 25.—At a mass meeting held under the auspices of the central labor union resolutions were adopted demanding the removal of Judge Samuel Utley of the county central district court because of his action in refusing to issue warrants for the arrest of police officers charged with beating pickets with assault.

It is not denied that the unionists were assaulted, but Judge Utley says evidence against the thugs is insufficient to warrant him refusing to issue John Doe warrants.

The thugs were hired and imported by employers who are attempting to establish the non-union shop in this city.

WANT NON-UNION BROOMS.

Chicago, Sept. 25. — Non-union brooms are the latest attack on the International Broom and Whisk Makers' union by the National Association of Manufacturers and other employers' association. Several cities, including Chicago, are involved, and the workers say this is part of the non-union shop program of the chamber of commerce of the United States.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 25.—The Typographical union has raised scales in the job offices $40 a week, dating back to July 1, when a five-years' contract expired. The contract will run for 18 months.

OPPOSE NON-UNION SHOP.

Philadelphia, Sept. 25.—The central labor union is conducting an active campaign against the non-union shop. The unionists have asked President Gompers to address a public meeting in the interest of the union shop.

ILLEGAL COAL STRIKE COLLAPSES, AS USUAL

Hazelton, Pa., Sept. 25.—The policy committee of the anthracite mine workers dealt the final blow to the illegal strike of these workers in a proclamation recommending that the union miners return to their work and vindicate the faith of the contracts and the justice of our cause."

The proclamation says that the strike was the result of the "unwise action of a few untthinking men." It declares that the anthracite districts are empowered to hold a convention "if in their discretion as may be necessary" if the coal owners attempt to victimize the miners.

The illegal strike followed a "policy" which committee was appointed by the president. The miners' representative issued a minority report when the award was announced, but the resolutions urged that the award be complied with. The "outstanding men" referred to called a convention, and in a short time many sections of the anthracite district were fanned to a white heat and the miners declared they would "take a vacation." They petitioned the president to revise the award and gave him three days to comply with their request. As could be expected, the president refused this challenge in a letter calling attention to their agreement to abide by the award.

It is believed now that with the establishment of normal conditions the miners' officials will succeed in reopening the scale in a regular manner. The officers took the only course as against the policy of the "vacationists."

Secretary of Labor Wilson has notified the policy committee that he will be glad to meet with the trade union officials and discuss any grievances those workers may present.

MINE HEROES UNSUNG.

San Francisco, Sept. 25.—"We can think of no more inspiring, more unselfish or more splendid than to enter a burning or caving mine to bring out the dead by the workman," writes T. A. Richard, editor of a mine publication in this city.

"The risk is not faced on the spur of the moment. It is taken knowingly and deliberately, every time entering a dark hole in the ground where the story of many a mine disaster may be buried with the bodies of those in danger and their would-be rescuers. And in the latter instance there can be nothing of the spectacular in the performance. There is no glamour, no glory achievement before an admiring crowd; often there is no witness to the lives of the imperiled ones that of losing those of the men that seek to aid them. It is a wearylasting tribute to the miner that invariably, when the emergency arises, scores are ready to undertake the task of rescue.

"From the latest singular to me that the only heroism that is officially recognized in time of peace by the United States government through the award of honor medals is the saving of life from the perils of the sea."

WORKLESS IN AKRON.

Chicago, Sept. 25.—"There is a very serious condition of affairs in Akron, and very dark," says John C. Chase, president of Municipal university, Akron, Ohio, in a letter to E. N. Nockels, secretary of the Chicago federation of labor.

"The large rubber plants," continues Mr. Chase, "have laid off in the neighborhood of 60,000 workers of all crafts during the past two months. At the present time they are advertising for thousands of men to fill agreater number other for the jobs. Serious cuts in wages are now being attempted in all lines of the industry."

LOW WAGE FOR JANITORS.

Newark, N. J., Sept. 25.—Janitors in Newark, public schools, receive such low wages that they are forced to place their children in charitable institutions. This was brought out by trade unionists in urging the board of education to pay janitors a living wage.

The board pleaded poverty and then let it be known that the deficiency ashes from the schools, in previous years the cost was $1,000.

UNION GETS $1,000.

Newark, N. J., Sept. 25.—Secretary-Treasurer Hilfers of the Essex trades council stated last night that that body when he announced: have in my possession a check for $1,000 which I am holding for safe keeping over to the trade union anti-tuberculosis association."

The council declined to reveal the name of the donor until he is given permission.

TYPOS UNIONIZE SHOP.

New York, Sept. 25.—The Fairchild Publishing company has signed a union shop agreement with the typographical union No. 6. This concern has operated on the non-union basis for several years. It publishes numerous magazines and trade papers.

LAUNDRY WORKERS GAIN.

Fresno, Cal., Sept. 25.—Laundry workers have negotiated a new agreement which raises rates to $47.50 a week.

CO-OPERATION GROWS AMONG WAGE EARNERS

Washington, Sept. 25.—Reports to A. F. of L. headquarters indicate that the co-operative movement is interesting trade unionists in every section of the country.

The movement has been stimulated by the appointment by President Harding of a committee to study co-operation, under instructions of the last labor convention of the International Cigar Makers' union; Wm. Green, president United Mine Workers; Timothy Shea, president Interstate Street Car Men; John H. Walker, president Illinois state federation of labor; James W. Sullivan, New York Typographical union; and Arthur E. Holder, legislative representative of the A. F. of L., and now a member of the federal board for vocational education.

These committeemen are veteran co-operators. They have been earnest co-operators for years, and know the pitfalls and allurements of co-operation that is not founded on correct principles.

The committee urges unionists to accept the Rochdale principle of co-operation, and to "go slow" in their preliminary moves.

In the report of the reconstruction commission, adopted by last year's A. F. of L. convention, this reference is made to co-operation:

"The labor movement favors cooperation, for it preserves the initiative, independence and self-reliance of the people to participate more effectively in the solution of the many perplexing social and political problems which continually arise."

MINERS ENJOINED.

Charleston, W. Va., Sept. 25.—Officials of the international and state organizations of the United Mine Workers have been enjoined by the supreme court of appeals from interfering with the coal operators' claim are individual contracts with employes.

The contracts provide that the signer waives his right to do a union day's work for a union day while in the employ of the company. The injunction is in line with decisions by the United States supreme court, Dec. 16, 1917, in which many were Hitchman case. This company enforced these contracts as one of the conditions of securing employment. It is claimed that such contracts destroy the union.

The injunction against organized miners, who were charged with attempting to induce employes to break their contracts because they discussed trade unionism with several of these workers. The district court of appeals, at Richmond, annulled the injunction, but on appeal to the United States supreme court, the injunction was sustained.

Under this rule an employer may take advantage of labor shortages, as exists and is assured support by courts through the injunction process.

RE-ELECT OFFICERS.

Windsor, Ontario, Sept. 25.—At the annual convention of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress, President Moore and Secretary Draper were re-elected by acclamation. All vice presidents were also re-elected. The convention proved to be one of the most successful in the history of the Canadian labor movement.

More than 600 delegates attended the convention, representing a membership nearing 200,000, and a gain of 35,000 last year. The Trades and Labor Congress is composed of trade unions affiliated with the A. F. of L., and knows no boundary lines so far as legislation of interest to Canadian wage earners.

STOVE MOUNTERS WIN.

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 25.—Stove mounters and the C. Emrich company, Fostoria, have settled long standing differences. This shop has been outside the union fold for many years.

Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 25.—The jewell stove company has reconsidered its declaration to run a non-union shop, following a five-weeks' strike organized stove mounters secured the eight-hour day and a 29 per cent wage increase.

PAY INCREASE REFUSED.

New York, Sept. 25.—Atlantic coast shipping companies have rejected wage demands of organized longshoremen, and declare that the latter will submit the matter to referendum.

MOVIE OPERATORS ADVANCE.

Yonkers, N. Y., Sept. 25.—A new wage agreement negotiated by organized moving picture operators raised wages $1 an hour and calls for a six-day week. The rate for overtime will be $1.50 an hour.

BIG MOTOR PROFITS.

New York, Sept. 25.—Last year's net earnings of the Packard motor car company and its subsidiaries totaled $10,644,543, exclusive of federal taxes. Sales for the year totaled $82,567,748.

HARD WORK DEFEATED ESCH.

Washington, Sept. 25.—If trade unionists are determined, they can defeat any reactionary, is the report of LaCrosse, Wis., trade unionists to the A. F. of L. non-partisan committee.

The Wisconsin unionists are jubilant over the defeat of Congressman Esch, sponsor in the house of representatives for the Cummins-Esch railroad law. The LaCrosse workers supported J. D. Beck, for several years chairman of the state industrial commission, and credited by many with being the "father of workmen's compensation in Wisconsin."

The trade unionists in that district began holding joint conferences with various progressive political parties early in the year, and when until the primary election were over. The farmers' non-partisan league in their localities and the workers and speakers into these districts, which resulted in superb team work. agriculturalists.

This was through the uniting efforts of our members that we succeeded," writes R. C. Knutson, chairman of the LaCrosse non-partisan committee. "I feel that the labor movement of this district has made a good account of itself and has demonstrated what can be done when our forces are united."

The unionists and farmers also defeated a reactionary for the state legislature, and nominated their county clerk, sheriff and district attorney.

TRUST EXPLOITS SPANIARDS.

Duluth, Minn., Sept. 25.—The Labor World calls attention to the employment of Spanish laborers at the plant of the Minnesota Steel company, at Morgan Park.

It is said: continues the Labor World, "that if the plan proves satisfactory many more Spanish laborers will be brought here to take the place of the workmen who will leave here in large numbers every season at the beginning of cold weather.

"Then, too, it is said, that the negroes, from the Southern cotton states and the Slav countries, have been getting too independent, since the war, in asking for higher wages and shorter hours, even going so far as to talk unionism. It is held by the steel trust's employment agents that the Spanish workmen will be more docile and humble in wages for some years yet, and they will be content to live on much less than workers' wage, not at least until they have accumulated enough money to bring their families here, after which some time will elapse before they will begin to make the climb to American standards. The trust's plan, admission and all, is less of change to the American way will take fully 10 years.

The Spanish workers at Morgan Park are employed, it is said, 12 hours a day."

NEW TYPOTHETAE HEAD.

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 25.—William J. Ryan, of Washington, D. C., was elected president of the United Typothetae of America at its annual convention here today. The typothetae is an organization of employing commercial printers. Its new executive is associated with the printing industry in the national capital.

There is an union and a non-union branch of the typothetae. The union branch has agreed with representatives of the organized printing trades to establish the 44-hour week on May 31, 1921. The organization as a whole, however, is opposed to the 44-hour week. The convention just held in this city took this position, and last year it refused to grant reduction from 48 hours is "unpatriotic, unwise, illtimed, and an economic crime."

PEOPLE EAT LESS MEAT.

Atlantic City, N. J., Sept. 25.—The American people are eating less meat, according to Dr. John R. Mahler, chief of the federal bureau of animal industry, in an address before the convention of the Institute of American meat packers, in session here last week. The speaker said, the consumption of meat, per capita, has decreased eight pounds. He said this was considerably less than the average consumption in Europe before the war and that the decrease will have an unfortunate effect upon the live stock industry of the country.

BOOKBINDERS STRIKE.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 25.—Bookbinders union No. 40 called a strike to enforce a wage scale of $44 a week for journeymen, and $22 and $22 a week for skilled bindery women. More than 350 men are involved in 24 shops. Twelve shops have signed the agreement.

PAINTERS ORGANIZE.

Arlington, Texas, Sept. 25.—Painters in this city have organized and secured a charter which was delivered by the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators of America.

GAS WORKERS GAIN.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Sept. 25.—Through arbitration employes of the local gas company will receive from 20 per cent wage increase. The company offered a 10 per cent advance which was refused and the award affects over a score of crafts and callings.

DISABLED VETERANS AIDED BY UNIONISTS

Washington, Sept. 25.—Trade unions are assisting the federal board of vocational training in the work of training 12,000 disabled veterans of the world war. Some unions have set aside funds, tools and laws and the ex-service men are being trained for new vocations with practical mechanics.

The railway employes department of the A. F. of L. is completing machinists, boiler makers, blacksmiths and instruction in "locomotive, car men and electricians, according to the report of the board attached to the shops for special training irrespective of the number of apprentices in the shop or on that railway system. They receive $1 per hour, in addition to their training pay from the federal board.

The International Brotherhood of Electricians has supplemented this action by opening their commercial shops in like manner.

The Boot and Shoe Workers' union is also co-operating with the board and the International Typographical union has ruled that apprenticeship regulations will not debar the disabled men from printing establishments that they may "learn on the job."

Machinists' union No. 68, San Francisco, admits without cost any man trained as a machinist by the federal board.

The board reports large registration in the Dakotas, where unions are operated by state boards that supply the federal board's educational plan. The instructors are disabled ex-service men, skilled in the trades they are to teach. The schools are being equipped with everything needed in the way of tools and appliances.

OPPOSED TO JAPS.

Washington, Sept. 25.—Strong opposition to the admission of thousands of Japs was recorded by the annual convention of the Japanese exclusion league, in session here today.

It is said: continues the Labor World, "that if the plan proves satisfactory many more Spanish laborers will be brought here to take the place of the workmen who will leave here in large numbers every season at the beginning of cold weather.

"Then, too, it is said, that the negroes, from the Southern cotton states and the Slav countries, have been getting too independent, since the war, in asking for higher wages and shorter hours, even going so far as to talk unionism. It is held by the steel trust's employment agents that the Spanish workmen will be more docile and humble in wages for some years yet, and they will be content to live on much less than workers' wage, not at least until they have accumulated enough money to bring their families here, after which some time will elapse before they will begin to make the climb to American standards. The trust's plan, admission and all, is less of change to the American way will take fully 10 years.

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DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT AND THE COURTS

An insuperable obstacle of self-government in the United States exists in the power which has been gradually assumed by the supreme courts to declare void any act of congress or of a federal or state legislature and void upon the ground that, in the court's opinion, it is unconstitutional.

It is essential that the people, acting directly or through congress or state legislatures, should have final authority in determining which laws shall be enacted. Adequate steps must be taken, therefore, which will prevent the use in the event of a supreme court declaration an act of congress or of a state legislature unconstitutional and the people acting directly or through congress or a state legislature should reverse the decision; it shall then become the law of the land subject to annulment by any court.—(From report of the Reconstruction Committee, adopted by American Federation of Labor convention, June, 1919.)

HIGH COST OF LIVING AND AGRICULTURE

The private ownership of large tracts of usable land is not conducive to the best interests of a democratic people.

Legislation should be enacted providing a graduated tax upon all usable lands above the acreage which is cultivated by the owner.

Establishment of government experimental farms, measures for stock raising instruction, the irrigation of arid lands and reclamation of swamp and cut-over lands should be undertaken upon a larger scale under direction of the federal government.

Municipalities and states should be empowered to acquire lands for cultivation.—(From report of the Reconstruction Committee, adopted by American Federation of Labor convention, June, 1919.)